

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/685,637	10/15/2003	Nripendra Nath Das	13DV-14080 (07783-0096)	4977
31450	7590 04/18/2006		EXAMINER	
MCNEES W	VALLACE & NURICI	CHEN, I	CHEN, BRET P	
100 PINE ST	REET			
P.O. BOX 11	66	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
HARRISBURG, PA 17108-1166			1762	
			DATE MAILED: 04/18/200	6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summary		10/685,637	DAS ET AL.				
		Examiner	Art Unit				
		B. Chen	1762				
- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply							
A SHO WHIC - Exter after - If NO - Failur Any r	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR FOR HEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING IS IN 18 IN 19 IN	NG DATE OF THIS COMMUNITY OF THIS COMMUNITY OF THE PROPERTY OF	JNICATION. By a reply be timely filed MONTHS from the mailing date of this content of the second o				
Status							
2a) <u>□</u> 3) <u>□</u>	Responsive to communication(s) filed on This action is FINAL . 2b) Since this application is in condition for al closed in accordance with the practice un	This action is non-final.	•	merits is			
Dispositi	on of Claims						
5)□ 6)⊠ 7)□ 8)□ Applicati 9)□ 10)□	Claim(s) 1-17 and 28-30 is/are pending in 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are with Claim(s) is/are allowed. Claim(s) 1-17 and 28-30 is/are rejected. Claim(s) is/are objected to. Claim(s) are subject to restriction as con Papers The specification is objected to by the Example of Exampl	thdrawn from consideration. and/or election requirement. aminer. accepted or b) objected or the drawing(s) be held in abeorrection is required if the draw	to by the Examiner. syance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). ring(s) is objected to. See 37 CF				
Priority u	nder 35 U.S.C. § 119						
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 							
2) Notice 3) Inform	e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-94 nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/S No(s)/Mail Date	8) Paper I	ew Summary (PTO-413) No(s)/Mail Date of Informal Patent Application (PTO	-152)			

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-17, 28-30 are pending in this application. Amended claims 1 and newly added claims 28-30 are noted.

The amendment dated 1/30/06 has been entered and carefully considered. The examiner appreciates the amendments to the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-17, 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, the preamble states forming diffusion aluminide coatings "on an uncoated surface of a substrate". However, the first step requires providing a metal substrate comprising an external surface and an internal passage wherein the "external surface of the substrate being coated with a coating layer". The limitations appear to contradict each other and it is not clear whether the substrate is coated or not prior to cleansing and the aluminum vapor deposition. This issue applies to claims 28-29 as well.

This issue appears to be critical because applicant argues this very issue on p.12 of the response dated 1/30/06.

Application/Control Number: 10/685,637 Page 3

Art Unit: 1762

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to B. Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1417. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Meeks can be reached on (571) 272-1423. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Bc 1/30/06

BRET CHEN PRIMARY EXAMINER